

11-11-2015

Montana Kaimin, November 11-17, 2015

Students of the University of Montana, Missoula

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OPINION

BIG UPS & BACKHANDS

Backhands to Butte for not being able to take a joke.

Big Ups to Jeb Bush for saying "hell yeah" he'd kill baby Hitler. Finally, a president that will protect our borders. With infanticide.

Backhands to Reinvest MT for meeting the president by the UC Market. Was he on his late afternoon coffee run?

Big ups to Ben Carson for attempting to connect with younger, urban voters in his "rap ad." We foresee a fire mixtape in your future.

Backhands to Ben Carson for claiming that the pyramids were made to store grain. He knows we're not talking about the food pyramid, right?

Big ups to Mizzou's football team for getting their university president to step down. Finally, college sports was able to achieve something!

Backhands to Starbucks for firing the first shot in the War on Christmas by revealing their holiday cups in November ... heathens.

Big ups to Starbucks for revealing that red holiday cup and pissing off Christians everywhere. They were running out of things to get mad about it.

A
Missouligans
PUBLIC SERVICE
ANNOUNCEMENT

Brendan Casey
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EDITORIAL RECENT SCANDALS THIS EDITORIAL IS NOT ABOUT

Editorial Staff | editor@montanakaimin

Throughout its 117 year history, the Montana Kaimin occasionally finds itself in the unenviable position of publishing investigations contributing to the University of Montana's ghoulish reputation and snowballing enrollment crisis. When enrollment goes down, so does the paper's operating budget, and the cascading scandals engulfing the few tortured souls remaining at UM have given the Kaimin ample opportunity to gladly and repeatedly shoot ourselves in the foot.

Examining our gory nub, some wise community members have suggested we ought not report the failings of our benefactors for the benefit of all. Less negative media attention surrounding UM's gaffes will trick high school seniors into enrolling into our secretly troubled school, so the logic goes, and a rising tide raises all ships, no matter what Jabberwocks lurk beneath the waves.

In an effort to remain fiscally responsible and save the school, the Kaimin has taken these suggestions to heart, and will no longer report on the University's cavalcade of flaws. In the name of transparency, listed below are the scandals that will not be reported, followed up on, published or acknowledged as existent by the Kaimin editorial board (this week).

The Kaimin will not comment on the irony of Missoula attorney Paul Ryan defending a Grizzly football player who broke into a home to steal beer after arguing less than a year ago that slain teenager Diren Dede deserved to be shotgunned for doing the same.

The Kaimin will also not point out that the UM Athletic Department inflated reports of their athletes' lagging academic success a year before the University opened a brand new athlete-only tutoring center.

This editorial is not about the administration misreporting the severity of UM's enrollment crisis, nor its inconsistent policy of deciding which numbers are the real numbers, when to report them, and whether any of their statistics are or ever have been trustworthy.

The Kaimin will not comment on the total defunding of UM's NCBI discrimination prevention program (deeming its loss "least adverse") in a national environment of cascading racial tension on college campuses.

The Kaimin will not discuss the hypocrisy of refusing wind, solar and biomass power initiatives, declining to divest from fossil fuels, and placing the award-winning green energy program on a presidential "hit list," while pledging to cut 90 percent of campus emissions within 5 years.

Above all this editorial will not discuss Monday's censored rape panel, Sexual Assault in Montana: Fact, Fiction and Future. Giving only 30 minutes for the question and answer portion was galling enough, but demanding questions be submitted on paper, not reading them verbatim and refusing contentious questions is an unproductive way to address a fundamental problem plaguing this university.

As long as this myriad of dysfunctions remains hidden, the Kaimin is confident the administration can find a way to contain the dumpster fire that is enrollment at the University of Montana.



TRANSED OUT

Prisoners deserve health care

Michael Siebert | michael.siebert@umontana.edu

I've often said trans people have infiltrated almost all conversations Americans have about identity politics. That's certainly easy to believe, especially when publications like the New Republic go so far as to describe our issues as "America's Next Great Civil Rights Struggle." It feels like trans discussions about a wide variety of topics are happening constantly.

Except that's not entirely true. The discussions we have tend to focus on beauty standards, media portrayal and health care, all of which are important, and all of which I have written about extensively. But these conversations are typically centered around, popular trans people. What about the faces of

the cause that are less than desirable? What about, for example, prisoners?

We don't like to talk about prison in general. We avoid talking about the corporatization of the prison system like the plague. We ignore the plight of prisoners without access to basic health products like tampons and medications. And we especially hate talking about prisoners' mental health.

And that's all for cisgender inmates. We rarely hear much of anything about the way trans people are treated. That's because the penal system has no idea what the hell it's doing. We regularly see trans inmates suffer everything from denial of medical services to the horror of being placed in a prison corre-

sponding to their gender assigned at birth.

According to the Bureau of Justice Statistics, almost 40 percent of trans inmates were victims of sexual assault while incarcerated. The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force reported that almost 50 percent of black, trans people have been incarcerated at some point in their lives. The lack of access to effective medical and mental health care, as well as the rate of poverty among trans people, directly affects these numbers. That's not even beginning to touch on the wealth of other issues, like the fact that trans inmates are disproportionately placed in solitary confinement and segregated from other prisoners.

Our lack of understanding about general

trans issues contributes to this, but we can't ignore that we routinely vilify criminals. When discussing the plight of trans people in prison, we tend to be dismissive of their struggle because of their status as prisoners. In regard to health care, I am often met with a similar argument: they shouldn't have access to hormones or other care specific to their needs because they're being punished for a crime.

This line of thought posits that breaking the law warrants abuse. We would not support halting chemotherapy for inmates with cancer — why would we strip away treatments like hormone replacement therapy, especially when the Department of Justice has already declared doing so unconstitutional?

While conversations about the trans movement are associated with the left, the fact of the matter is that the treatment of trans people in prison isn't a partisan issue, it's a human rights issue. No prisoner deserves to be abused, regardless of their crimes. We should not be the kind of country that punishes through discrimination. •

POLICE BLOTTER

Peter Friesen

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Oct. 27

LIVING THE HARRY POTTER LIFESTYLE

A custodian reported two students loitering under the basement stairwell in the Skaggs Building. UM Police told the two, who weren't doing anything criminal, to move on.

NEVER TOO OLD TO SWING

A University Villages resident reported an old man, possibly in his seventies, at the playground swinging on the swing set with kids nearby. UMPD didn't find the man doing anything inappropriate.

Oct. 28

NO TOUCHING!

UM Police are investigating a possible assault between a Missoula College student and his professor. The student told UMPD they were arguing about a test

when the professor "touched him in an offensive manner."

Oct. 31

BETTER THAN YALE

A fire alarm was pulled at Sigma Alpha Epsilon, prompting 911 dispatchers to send a fire truck. The firefighters reset the alarm and cleared the house after finding it was an accident.

LIGHT SLEEPER

A student called UM Police to help remove a seemingly unconscious man from her off-campus apartment. She couldn't wake the man, but he was "surprisingly coherent" when officers came. UMPD walked the student back to his room in Knowles Hall.

Nov. 1

THEY DID THE MASH

An intoxicated female student was found in the first-floor Duniway Hall bathroom after getting into an altercation off campus. The woman, who was beat up by an unidentified suspect during their fight late Halloween night, was taken to St. Patrick Hospital. UM Police are investigating the incident.

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Mandatory UMPD body cameras coming soon

Peter Friesen

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UM Police officers have had the option to wear body cameras for years, but soon they'll be mandatory.

Missoula Police have worn body cameras since 2012 with around 90 percent of officers wearing them on patrol, Officer Kurt Trowbridge said.

Captain Ben Gladwin is writing the mandatory wear policy for UMPD officers to follow, outlining when officers will record, when the video will be uploaded and maintenance for the cameras. The policy has to be approved by administrators before it's enacted.

"Any time they're doing the job of a police officer, the cameras will be on," Gladwin said.

According to Gladwin, videotaping every call is a natural step forward for law enforcement. Dashboard cameras have been standard for decades and, when he was on patrol, it was common practice to put a tape recorder in a front pocket when responding to a call.

The footage will be stored with police reports in UMPD's computer system and prosecutors can ask for the video anytime, Gladwin said. Just like most police records, they won't be available to the general public or to

journalists during an ongoing investigation. They haven't yet figured out how they'll store the files once videotaping becomes mandatory.

Gladwin kept his eye out for better body cameras than UM Police's current stock, which were old, bulky and hard to use. They weren't even designed for law enforcement use.

At \$190 per camera, Gladwin bought six new ones, enough to equip every on-duty officer, though the old cameras might be used during large events when more officers are working.

The cameras have infrared settings for night recordings, the option to take still photos, a key fob remote to turn the camera on and off and an attachable mini camera that enables the officer to keep the bulky box off their chest.

Greg Venturini, 25, went to Penn State and is looking at UM for graduate school. He said body cameras aren't a perfect solution, but they're a step in the right direction.

"It'll lead to greater transparency and accountability for police officers," he said. "Mostly I just can't think of a reason why not."

Body cameras have become a near-essential tool for police officers in the last few years, and from a police perspective, camer-



Loren Benoit / @loren_benwawa

Body cameras could soon be mandatory for UM Police once a policy is approved by administrators. By recording police-citizen encounters, police can get objective evidence of what happened as oppose to just relying on verbal evidence, according to UMPD Officer John Weber.

as help, much more than hurt, officers doing their jobs. Complaints to Missoula Police and UMPD dropped after they started taping interactions, according to Trowbridge and UMPD Officer John Weber.

"It shows the facts, and you can't argue with the video," Weber said.

When suspects realize they're on camera, they're likely to act more respectful and take responsibility, Weber said, and the same applies to officers.

"It's kind of like your mom watching and it helps you realize, 'I need to be operating at 100 percent' all the time," Weber said. ■

Off the walleye

Claire Chandler

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Two invasive walleye were found in Swan Lake last week during a Fish, Wildlife and Parks netting operation in the Swan Valley. FWP has been studying 27 miles of the Swan for 8 years, each fall netting and recording fish. This is the first time they've found walleye.

FWP assumes it was a purposeful action, because walleye aren't native to any waters near the Swan, according to Region 1 fisheries manager Mark Deleray.

A \$15,000 reward is available to anyone with information leading to the conviction of whoever illegally introduced walleye to the lake.

The reward money isn't from FWP but instead from a host of angler societies such as Trout Unlimited, Montana Bass Federation Nation and a number of walleye fishing-focused groups. Deleray said it's interesting because even though some of these groups support walleye fishing, none of

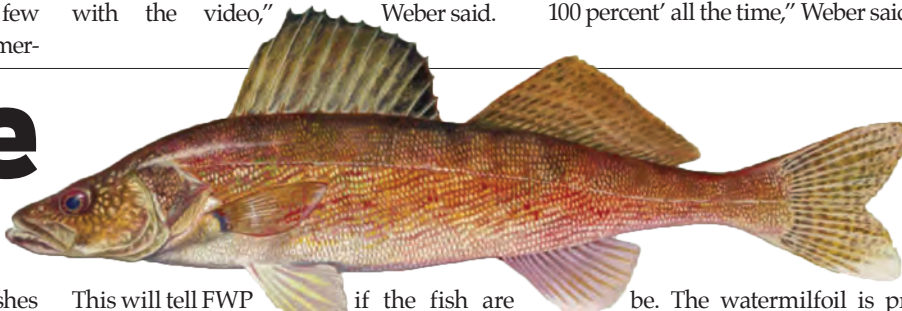
them want to see invasive species introduced.

Once a species successfully establishes itself in an ecosystem, it is next to impossible to remove it, according to Deleray. All that's left to do is manage populations. Promoting invasive species to anglers is one way to do this. They don't know yet if the walleye in the Swan will actually establish themselves as a population, however.

FWP see invasive species introduction many times per year. Sometimes populations fizzle out, but other times they take hold. Walleye were introduced into the Noxon Reservoir and Canyon Ferry Lake near Helena 25 years ago.

The Canyon Ferry population took off, establishing themselves quickly as a dominant fish, decimating native perch and trout populations. On the other hand, the walleye in Noxon didn't take. They are still a low population fish, all because of the difference in habitat, according to Deleray.

Bone samples from the two fish caught in Swan Lake were taken for analyzing,



This will tell FWP if the fish are first generation or if they were actually born in the lake, giving them an estimate of how long walleye have been there.

Penalties for fish introduction are steep, ranging from \$2,000-\$10,000 fines, possible loss of fishing and hunting privileges and even having to pay for the cost of invasive species management. This can add up quickly, Deleray said.

Fishing is a big industry in Montana. FWP recorded 424,888 fisherman in 2013, selling \$12.322 million in fishing licenses, according to FWP License Bureau business analyst Neil Whitney.

Repercussions for introducing fish may be harsh, but introduction of plant species, like Eurasian watermilfoil, results in a felony, according to FWP invasive species specialist Jayden Duckworth.

Watermilfoil outcompetes native species, establishing itself on shorelines and providing fish habitat where they shouldn't

be. The watermilfoil is pretty aggressive, spreading when fragmented. FWP has had to use chemicals to keep it in control.

There is a big difference between fish and plant introduction, however. It is much easier to accidentally introduce invasive plant species, because seed is much easier to unknowingly carry than a live fish, according to Duckworth. Someone would have had to intentionally carry the walleye from another body of water to the Swan.

The owner of Pete's Tackle in Kalispell, Pete Jellar, travels to Eastern Montana to fish walleye, where they are established. The walleye are a tasty fish, and they bring a lot of joy to people who catch them. As a man passionate about designing tackle for anglers, Jellar doesn't support illegal introduction.

"There might be an asshole out there putting fish in the lakes. It will all balance out in God's time though," Jellar said. ■

I love it when you call me Pig Poppa

Kasey Bubnash

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Burke Holmes is considering investing in a new business venture — a food truck called Piggie Smalls.

Food trucks are a growing trend in Missoula. They park in the streets downtown on weekends, cater special events and serve food at the farmer's market on Saturday mornings. While independent food trucks are struggling to sustain themselves, many Missoula restaurants, like Notorious P.I.G., are capitalizing on growing food truck popularity.

Since the opening in April of Notorious P.I.G., a St. Louis-style barbecue restaurant, owner Holmes said business has been great.

"We're very lucky people like our food because we work really, really hard," Holmes said. "We only cook enough barbecue for the day, and when we run out, we run out. We're not reheating anything, and we're not selling yesterday's barbecue today. It's a really hard way to do things, but it's the only way to do things right."

Although the restaurant has completely run out of food before, Holmes said it only happens on the busiest days. At the end of an average day, leftover food is donated to the Poverello Center, Holmes said.

Despite being a fairly new business, Burke is planning to open Piggie Smalls in the future, but he doesn't have finalized plans.

"What the food truck would do is give us another outlet. We could maybe sell some of the food that we didn't sell for a normal day here at the restaurant," Holmes said. "I think it's a market that a bunch of people are jumping on. We've got taco trucks always out and the hot dog guy is awesome. So I think it's a fun thing to do."

While Holmes is experiencing the financial security to venture into the food truck business, other food truck owners are putting in the work required to run a restaurant but not making the same profits.

Kim West, owner of Tia's Tamales food truck, said she spends 10 hours a week preparing food in a kitchen, and getting the food to the truck and the truck to a location is always a task.

West said the health department only allows food trucks to serve a few different items, all of which must be approved, making culinary creativity a challenge.

In Montana, cold winters often force Mis-

soula's food trucks to shut down, cutting their season short.

"There's only one truck in town that has the ability to go year round and that's Burns Street Bistro because they have a super brand new truck," West said. "But I can't do that. My water would freeze. My pipes wouldn't work."

West said it's almost impossible to make enough money in five months to survive the whole year.

"That's why I'm back to opening a physical location," she said. "In fact, we've just purchased the old Big Sky Drive-In on Broadway."

West hopes to have her new restaurant opened in January, and said the food truck will still be around in the summer.

El Cazador just closed their food truck for the winter on Nov. 3, according to owner Alfredo Hernandez. Since purchasing the truck in 1998, El Cazador caters private events by day and feeds the people downtown by night.

Although catering to bargoers can be tough, Hernandez said it's worth the money.

"It's good business," he said. "It's late hours and unhappy employees, but the people downtown give big tips." ■



Olivia Vanni / @ogvannipphoto

(Above) A few of the most popular items at Notorious P.I.G. are their half-slab of ribs (top) and their side of pit baked beans (bottom). The name, Notorious P.I.G., came to Holmes when he was reading an old Texas cookmaster book and saw the phrase, "good barbecue is like a dream." Being a big hip-hop fan, Holmes immediately connected that phrase to the lyrics "it was all a dream" in a Notorious B.I.G. song, and the name, Notorious P.I.G., came to be.

(Below) Burke Holmes, owner of Notorious P.I.G. a St. Louis-style barbecue restaurant in Missoula, explains the slow-cooking process of the meats they serve on Nov. 4. Holmes, who is originally from St. Louis, perfected his barbecuing technique by learning from some of the best barbecue cookmasters in Missouri.



Clashing cultures: an Iraqi poet, filmmaker in Montana

Abby Lynes

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Growing up in Iraq, Saif Alsaegh remembers waking up to the sound of bullets and bombs.

"Like, that's our alarm," he said.

Now, when the graduate student wakes up in Missoula, he is surrounded by mountains, fog and peace, a scene that can feel just as strange.

Alsaegh, a poet and filmmaker, came to UM this semester to pursue a degree in media arts with an emphasis in film. He said his work tends to be highly experimental and influenced, in part, by growing up in a war zone.

Alsaegh was born in Baghdad during the Gulf War in 1991, into what he calls "the routine of war."

"You sit there, and you hear a bomb, and you like don't even think about it. You just keep talking," he said. "That routine of daily life is harder than the war itself — that you wake up every day not knowing if your family is going to get home safe."

His mother told him about crossing a bridge to get to a hospital to give birth to him, and that same bridge was bombed two hours later. He doesn't remember it, but she held and cuddled him underneath a staircase during dangerous times in Baghdad when he was a baby.

The worst part of the war was seeing violence become normalized, he said. He lost friends who died in terrorist attacks, and he remembers seeing arms lying in the street.

The bombings and shootings began when the U.S. invaded Iraq in the early 2000s. It was shocking, at first. Eventually, though, "nobody gives a shit anymore," he said.

Despite growing up in a war, he still experienced the universal problems of every teenager. There were good and bad days.

"But in all of those everyday life issues, you have that big cloud over your head, saying you might die today," he said.

After living in constant danger, Alsaegh had to adjust to living in Montana, which is surreal in its own way.

"I think that routine of peace is also very weird," he said.

He saw two cars almost collide a few days ago, and he said it got him excited. After living in Iraq, where violence is common, it can be strange living in a quiet place like Missoula.

Alsaegh was born and raised as a Christian in Baghdad. He attended the University of Baghdad for a year while working as a full-time reporter covering the House of Representatives.

Working as a reporter in Iraq was dangerous, though, so he moved to Damascus, Syria after his first year of college while the rest of his family moved to Iraqi Kurdistan.

He said he loved everything about Damascus: the food, the bars and the people. At the time, he was in a nine-month program that prepared Middle Eastern students to study abroad in the U.S. The revolution that resulted from the Arab Spring didn't start until his last few months there.

"It's just so sad to see Syria just being destroyed," he said. "Because when I was there, I remember Damascus being cheap, nice and beautiful. It was so cool and diverse and liberal."

The program placed him at the University of Great Falls, and he graduated with a business degree last spring.

Though he didn't enjoy living in Great Falls, he appreciated the city's burgeoning art community that helped him get started as a poet and filmmaker.

He began his artistic career doing slam poetry. From there, he started writing more and published his first book of poetry, "Iraqi Headaches," through Nouveau Nostalgia Press in 2013.

Sara Habein, who co-owns the Great Falls-based publishing company with her husband, said the book did well because of the unique perspective it offers.

"People are curious about hearing some perspective about the war in Iraq by an Iraqi person, even though the book

doesn't entirely have to do with the war."

Alsaegh has done book readings and other promotional work across the northwest. When he did an interview with Montana Public Radio, he expressed an interest in film.

"When I watch a film that is good, it blows my mind," he said. "Like when you are with a beautiful girl — it's a beautiful feeling, you know?"

MTPR put him in touch with the media arts department at UM. Now, he is pursuing an M.F.A. in media arts with an emphasis in film. He's interested in experimental projects and frequently works over Skype with his brother, who lives in Turkey.

The brothers are currently working on an experimental documentary on Syrian refugees. He is also submitting films to festivals and working on a short that will air at The Roxy in December.

The media arts recruiters were very interested and intrigued by Alsaegh's

style, said Michael Murphy, head of filmmaking and graduate studies.

He likes assembling images in unique ways that jar one's sense of reality, Murphy said. His work also has playful elements.

"I think that has a lot to do with his sense of cultures and clashing cultures," he said. "You know, being a Christian and being perceived of, because he's Iraqi, as being Muslim even though he's not."

Alsaegh just started the three-year media arts M.F.A. program, and Murphy said he's still evolving as an artist.

Although living through a war influences his work, Alsaegh said it doesn't change who he is as a human being.

"It isn't the only interesting thing about me," he said.

By the time he is 50 years old, his time spent in a war zone will only make up a fraction of his life. He has many more years to explore the world, see new landscapes and make meaningful art. ■



Online gallery: montanakaimin.com

Lacey Young / @laceyyoung87

Alejandro Rose-Garcia, aka Shakey Graves, opens his set at The Wilma Theatre with a beer and a question for the audience on Nov. 2, 2015. "It's Missoula's Day of the Dead, so we figured we'd get fucking weird on y'all!" Rose-Garcia said. The entire venue was filled by people of all ages who were there for the sold out show.

DHC drop outs

over half of honors students leave DHC before graduation

Micah Drew

For the Montana Kaimin

New leadership at the Davidson Honors College is looking to change the trend of students leaving the college before graduation.

Brock Tessman replaced James McKusick as dean of the DHC in June, after McKusick took a job at the University of Missouri-Kansas City.

In his few months in Missoula, Tessman has been busy talking to students, faculty and anyone else who might be impacted by the college in order to learn where improvements can be made.

There is one big weakness that was identified: retention rates.

"It's not a concern," said Tessman. "It's unacceptable."

Tessman said in the past few years, the college admitted around 200 new students a year, but only graduated about 75 annually as University Scholars.

It is hard to put exact numbers on how many students leave the college, because there is no required paperwork to leave. According to the dean, students just stop taking classes and drift away.

Senior Reid Longley enrolled in the DHC as a freshman hoping for a similar experience to advanced placement classes in high school.

He quit sophomore year.

"I thought it would make school more challenging," Longley said. Instead, "it seemed like a waste of time when I was trying to double major in two sciences that don't fit very well with the Honors College classes."

Students have a variety of reasons for

leaving the DHC.

Laure Pengelly Drake, the director of advising and external scholarships, said students leave because it wasn't their choice to join the DHC.

"Many students applied and joined because their parents wanted them to," she said.

Drake said some students come for scholarships but aren't committed to the college itself.

The academics themselves also play a huge role. Since the DHC is small, it can't offer classes in every major on campus. Students must often pick between taking a class for their degree, or for their honors distinction.

Drake said the required research thesis scares off most students before they have time to fully understand what the project entails.

Tessman said he's working to reach a retention rate above 50 percent, but he doesn't think the DHC should strive to have a perfect record.

"If you have a 100 percent retention rate, I don't think your standards are high enough," he said.

Tessman is working to fix the enrollment problem with a marketing analysis of the DHC. By employing students at UM's business school, the DHC is being broken down piece by piece.

UM student Lauryn Wate is working on the marketing project with her class to crunch the minimal numbers the DHC had on enrollment, and analyze it in comparison to other honors colleges in the Northwest.

Wate said the lack of data the college had on enrollment, retention and graduation



Will McKnight / @WillMcK_Photo

A student in the Davidson Honors College lounge snoozes on a window seat Thursday, Nov. 5. New leadership at the honors college is looking to lower student drop-out rates and increase honors college graduates.

was shocking.

"If you're not retaining students, the first thing you should do is keep data and figure out who is coming in and why," Wate said. "That's the biggest frustration we've found. We're marketing students so we're all about the data."

Despite the lack of data, the class was able to put together a preliminary analysis and pinpoint some weaknesses.

Among those listed were the lack of presence on social media, absence of an alumni network and lack of classes across all majors. The business school, for example, doesn't offer many classes that count for honors credit.

That doesn't affect Wate or her classmates however — the business school has one of the highest job placement rates at UM.

"We didn't know what the benefit was of being an honors student," Wate said. "Sure you get this on your degree but how much does it actually help you?"

Tessman hopes to make that answer

much more clear in the future.

He has a two-part vision for the DHC, which includes a more aggressive recruiting and marketing plan including a different assessment for admission beyond standardized test scores and GPA.

Tessman said he wants a more holistic evaluation including student and faculty assessments and competency tests to diversify the college community and enhance learning outcomes.

He is also considering curriculum changes like a more defined honors tract so students aren't taking random classes that don't connect together. Tessman would also like to make honors courses available in more majors to prevent students from choosing between classes that contribute to their major or classes in the honors curriculum.

"I really want us to focus on what our students do from the moment they walk through the doors to the moment they leave," Tessman said. ■



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KICKING AND BREATHING

BY: SOJIN JOSEPHSON



Daniel Sullivan walked into the training room for the fifth day in a row. He got there as late as he possibly could before the Wyoming football coaches might make mention of it. He walked straight to the back of the room to lie on the same bed he'd lain on all season. He wouldn't be studying game tape today.

For the fifth day in a row, Sullivan reached for his phone and watched an episode of "Lost." He'd made it through three and a half seasons of the show since the start of that football season. Sullivan didn't want to be watching "Lost." He didn't want to be inside while his teammates practiced, doing the things he used to. But he didn't want to be outside either. He hated football.

Sullivan lived in a house of four that turned into a house of one most weekends. He refused to turn on the TV. He didn't want to watch his team run onto the field without him.

At the end of the 2012 season, Sullivan walked out of War Memorial Stadium in Laramie, Wyoming, thinking it'd be the last time he would walk off a football field. He packed up his car for the first time — a car that would be packed up two more times in two more years. He drove toward a life unknown.

Even as a child, football was hard to run from.

In 1971, Daniel's uncle, Auburn quarterback Pat Sullivan, won a Heisman Trophy. Another uncle, Joe Sullivan, also played QB at Auburn. Football was in his blood. But Sullivan was born in Norway, and the Norwegians don't play football. They play *folball*.

When Sullivan was 4 years old, he started kicking a soccer ball around his backyard. At 7 years old, his grandpa bought him his first Manchester United jersey. Love for the beautiful game struck Sullivan early and hard.

But at age 12, Sullivan watched a friend kick at a Gateway Guardians football game. He thought he could do it better. He fooled around with the art of kicking, but never took it seriously, even when he moved to the United States and was surrounded by football fanatics.

"I told my (high school) coach, 'I will come kick for you, but I'm only going to kick, and I'm going to leave early to go to soccer practice in Seattle,'" Sullivan said. "I like playing for 90 minutes in soccer compared to the four plays I get in football, but I started to realize I could go further with football than soccer."

He was right. He spent his high school years balancing football and soccer, but his booming right foot helped him stand out as a kicker. His senior year at Henry M. Jackson High School in Mill Creek, Washington, he hit a 49-yard field goal, made 43 of 44 extra points, and was named the best kicker in the state. Kohl's Kicking ranked him as the 7th best high school kicker in the nation in 2011.

Sullivan knew he wanted to kick at the highest level. He was looking for a Division I scholarship. He'd never given much thought to Wyoming, but Wyoming's football coach, Dave Christensen, was one of Sullivan's high school gym teacher's best friends. Christensen happened to be in the Everett area recruiting another player when he decided to stop in and take a look at Sullivan. Joel Vincent, Sullivan's high school coach, called him into his office. Christensen watched Sullivan's highlight tapes and offered him a scholarship on the spot.

Sullivan accepted. He started as a true freshman for the Cowboys, and made seven out of 11 field goals, including a 48-yarder against TCU. Maybe football was something he could fall in love with after all.

Continued on next page ...

Daniel Sullivan's top 5 TV Shows

From previous page...

The summer prior to Sullivan's sophomore year, he went to a three-day Kohl's kicking camp in Whitewater, Wisconsin. It was billed as a showcase of the country's top 100 D-I, D-II and D-III kickers, punters and snappers. The second day of camp was coming to a close. As Sullivan remembers it, the weather was serene, about 75 degrees. There was a punting competition playing out across the Whitewater Warhawks football field. Most campers were watching with only a passing interest.

Sullivan was sitting down talking to two fellow campers when the window of his eyesight closed, then quickly opened again. It stopped him mid-sentence.

"What were you saying?" one of the kickers asked.

Sullivan tried to repeat himself.

"I can't understand you."

Sullivan's entire right side of his vision was blurry. He had a pulsing headache and couldn't feel his arms. Everything was moving and he couldn't talk.

He got up and walked away from everyone. He went into the nearest bathroom, splashed water on his face and walked back outside. He felt dizzy and nauseous.

He sat down on his football bag, grabbed his phone and called his dad.

"Daniel, I can't understand a word you're saying," Bill Sullivan said. "I don't know what's going on, but you should probably go talk to somebody."

"Alright I will," Sullivan said. At least he thinks that's what he said.

He didn't feel well enough to stand up, so he sat until he felt his phone vibrate again. It was his dad.

"Go tell someone what's going on," his father said, his voice sounding increasingly worried.

Sullivan managed to get up and walk over to the closest instructor, New Orleans Saints punter Thomas Morstead. He tapped him on the shoulder to get his attention, but in doing so, began to fall backwards. Morstead grabbed his arm and sat him down. Suddenly, a swarm of campers surrounded him. The rest of Sullivan's day was a blur.

Sullivan walked to the athletic training center and was treated for a heat stroke. He put his legs in a cold tub and then stumbled back to his dorm room. He managed to take a shower and didn't bother to put sheets on his bed before he passed out in his towel.

The next morning, he woke up to his roommate telling him he was going to

breakfast. Sullivan got up and tried to find his way back to the training center, but got lost because he didn't remember the day before. Once he found it, two graduate students gave him Ibuprofen and sent him back out for the final day of camp.

He was slurring his words. People still couldn't understand him. He didn't feel well enough to compete, so he stood next to Florida's Caleb Sturgis on the sideline, who was nursing a groin injury and couldn't compete either.

After the camp came to a close, Sullivan got on a shuttle bus with his bags and took a three-hour ride to Chicago to get on an airplane. He remembers very little about his flight. It was 11 p.m. when Sullivan landed at the Denver International Airport.

He still had to drive two hours to get home. He blasted loud obnoxious music the whole time to stay awake.

A stroke?

Bill Sullivan said a stroke never crossed his mind. His son was 19 years old. He kept saying it was just a headache. But it sure didn't seem like a headache.

"I just had a feeling that something wasn't right," Bill said. "None of the dots were connecting."

Bill called his son again the next morning.

"My arm is better," Sullivan said.

"What do you mean?" Bill said.

"Well, it's not numb anymore," Sullivan said. "And my vision has cleared up."

"What do you mean?" Bill asked again.

"Well, it's been like looking through a straw the last couple of days."

"Daniel, something is wrong and you need to go to the hospital now."

He ended up in that hospital for three days. No one was sure, right away, what was wrong. Sullivan spent the next several months in and out of doctor's appointments in Colorado, Wyoming and Washington. Eventually, a diagnosis emerged: He'd had a stroke.

Sullivan was born with a PFO (patent foramen ovale), a condition where patients have a tiny hole in their heart that doesn't close after they're born. It's not uncommon. The root of his stroke is still unknown, but doctors think that a clot formed in his leg during his travel to Wisconsin. Instead of being filtered out by his heart, the little hole caused the clot to jump through to his brain where it lodged and caused a stroke.

After the diagnosis, he tried to go

straight back to football. That didn't work. Sullivan was sleeping 12 to 13 hours a night. He didn't feel like talking to anyone. He only went to class if he could stay awake.

"I started to resent football because I had to watch everyone else do the things I used to be able to," he said. "The coaches still made me be there despite how bad I felt."

After a starting season at Wyoming, he couldn't run onto the field with his teammates or do the things he used to. A teary-eyed Sullivan had a conversation with Dave Christensen, Wyoming's head coach at the time, to let him know he couldn't kick that year.

"I spent the season in my jersey, sweatshirt and travel pants on the sideline just sitting there," Sullivan said. "At that point, I just wanted to be by myself."

Whenever Sullivan struggles with something, he turns to Pokémon and video games because that's what he loved as a kid.

"It makes me feel better because I'm reminded of times when the real world and real problems weren't really there," he said.

That fall, Sullivan used his scholarship stipend check, money he says he should have put away, to buy a quesadilla burger at Applebee's three times a week. It was his favorite thing on the menu. It was inexpensive. It made him happy.

"In high school, we would go to Applebee's after every game, and that's what I would get," Sullivan said. "Everyone would order the same thing every week because we were a little superstitious, and that was mine."

By the time football season was over, he had gained 20 pounds. His GPA dropped from a 3.3 to a 2.4. He had a never-ending migraine. He decided to leave Wyoming for the rest of the school year.

Sullivan transferred to Cascadia Community College in Bothell, Washington and lived at home, working part-time at a health club. With football out of his life, he started playing soccer again. He was juggling a ball one day when a group of guys came to play a pick-up game. They wanted to know: Was he interested in joining them?

He played the game with them. Then he played another. Then another. When summer arrived, they asked him to join their squad.

"I had stopped playing soccer because of football, but it was therapeutic and

1. Game of Thrones



2. Eastbound and Down



3. Entourage



4. Parks and Rec



5. South Park



phenomenal, and I fell in love with the game again,” Sullivan said.

Sullivan dropped from 196 pounds to 148. He ate healthy, played soccer every day and decided not to go back to Wyoming at all. The coaches released him from the program for the following season, so he packed up his car again and drove to Washington State — the next chapter of his life. Sullivan still didn’t think he was ever going to play football again.

But on Sept. 14, 2013, Washington State played Southern Utah at home. Sullivan tailgated with his friends and walked into the stadium for the game. When the team ran out onto the field, he was in the stands. He knew he still had eligibility, and it hurt him badly. Sullivan walked out of the stadium five minutes after the game started. He’d seen enough.

The next morning, Sullivan contacted the special teams coordinator. Luckily, his past football career landed him a tryout. It was set for the spring.

Two weeks before his tryout, he sprained his right ankle playing a pick-up soccer game. In a boot, he worked to rehab his ankle. Three days before his second set tryout, he sprained the same ankle on his last kick of the day. He was in a boot for another month and a half.

After the second mishap, the coach made it clear that his chances to try out were over. Then Sullivan made a highlight tape, hoping his chance would come in the fall.

When it didn’t, there was still another coach to call. Another tape to send out. Through a family connection, Montana coaches took a look at the same highlight tape Sullivan made for Washington State. He was about to get one more chance.

Three days before fall camp started for Montana, Sullivan packed up his car for the third time, and made another drive to another college toward another unknown. He didn’t know if he would be eligible through NCAA rules. He didn’t



Will McKnight / @willmck_photo

Senior Daniel Sullivan kicks the ball for a field goal during the second quarter of Montana’s game against North Dakota on Saturday, Oct. 24, 2015. Sullivan was an honorable mention on the USA College Football FCS Preseason All-American Team.

even know where he would live.

He did know that he missed the brotherhood of a team. He was jealous of the players wearing their last names and numbers on their jerseys. He didn’t know who they were underneath their helmets.

He knew he used to have what they currently did, and he wanted that back. He wanted to run out onto a field in a jersey with his own last name and his own number. Football wasn’t everything to Sullivan, it never was, but it gave him something he needed to feel normal again: a purpose.

It took only a few kicks for Montana’s coaching staff to see his potential. He made the team. For the first time since he suffered his stroke, Sullivan felt like a football player again.

On Aug. 30, 2014, Sullivan went back to the place where all his problems began. He played with new teammates against old ones. His first collegiate game since his stroke, his first game as a Grizzly, was the season opener against Wyoming.

Sullivan’s father Bill said he was used to entering the stadium through a certain gate. He was used to sitting in a specific section, wearing brown and gold. But that day, he entered the stadium through a new gate. He sat on the opposite side of the field wearing maroon and silver. He felt grateful for new beginnings.

Sullivan kicked off against Wyoming. The ball flew through the end zone, so high and so far it hit the fence that separated the fans from the field. That day, all he did was handle kickoffs. But that was enough. More than enough, really.

“Seeing what Daniel had overcome culminate in that first kickoff was just the exclamation point after making the statement that he did it, that he came all the way back,” Bill said.

In four years, Sullivan went from scholarship athlete at a D-I football program to community college student to just student to football player again. Now he’s one of the best FCS kickers in the nation.

“There’s no one I would rather have out there kicking field goals than Sully,”

Montana special teams coach Jason Semore said.

Montana punter Chris Lider agreed. Sullivan’s journey makes you appreciate every day you have.

“You can lose football in a heartbeat and you don’t know when, but Daniel shows people that they can have a normal life and that nothing has to change them,” Lider said. “He’s lost football and he got it back.”

Other than the accolades, and the fact that he can kick again, not much else has changed about Sullivan. He still eats quesadilla burgers on occasion. He still plays a lot of Pokémon.

“I completed my entire Pokédex,” Sullivan said. “I have it with me right now, I’m not ashamed of it and I’m really proud of it.”

Sullivan said he wouldn’t take the stroke back. He believes the experience helped him to appreciate football more, but he also knows that football isn’t everything. There’s more to life than making sure a ball goes through the uprights on Saturdays.

He doesn’t want the stroke to define him. He doesn’t even think about it much anymore. He just marks a box at every doctor’s appointment now. A small reminder of the stroke, and a small reminder that now it’s just a check mark, not an anchor around his neck.



Breakfast of champions

Sullivan’s pregame meal is all-omelette, all the time. Here’s the ingredients for your own:

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2. Bacon
3. Sausage
4. Cheese
5. Spinach

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GRIZZ

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1	Markell Sanders	17	Makena Simis
2	Ryan McKinley	18	Tyler Lucas
3	Brady Gustafson	18	JR Nelson
3	Eric Johnson	19	Kobey Eaton
4	Chris Parker	20	John Nguyen
4	Holden Ryan	21	Joey Counts
5	Chase Naccarato	22	Retired in Honor of Terry Dillon
5	Daniel Sullivan	23	Caleb Lyons
6	Jamaal Jones	24	Lorenzo Logwood
7	Ellis Henderson	25	Shane Moody
8	Jeremy Calhoun	26	Carl Johnson
8	Manu Rasmussen	28	Jerrin Williams
9	Justin Calhoun	29	Brody Martinez
9	Yamen Sanders	30	Evan Epperly
10	Eric Prater	31	Justin Whitted
10	Connor Strahm	33	Connor Lebsock
11	Chad Chalich	34	Jamal Wilson
11	Nate Harris	35	Kendrick Van Ackeren
12	Danny Peoples	36	Herbert Gamboa
12	Willy Pflug	37	Caleb Kidder
13	Joshua Janssen	38	Tyrel Garner
13	Josh Sandry	38	Jeffrey Salamon
14	Will Weyer	39	Jake Dallaserra
15	Retired in Honor of Dave Dickenson	40	David Fa'atuiese
		41	Mick Delaney

EAG

51	Brandyn Bangsund		Austin Flynn
46	Conner Baumann	92	Nick Foerstel
47	Kody Beckering	43	Jake Gall
85	Henderson Belk	27	Victor Gamboa
39	Curtis Billen	96	Jayce Gilder
75	Spencer Blackburn	66	Thomas Gomez
73	T.J. Boatright	88	Terence Grady
11	Kendrick Bourne	69	Will Gram
32	Zach Bruce	15	Gage Gubrud
95	Beau Byus	26	Dehonta Hayes
59	Kurt Calhoun	12	Reilly Hennessey
3	Frank Cange	1	Shaq Hill
42	Colin Cossette	86	Keegen Hlad
79	Cassidy Curtis	17	Jake Hoffman
45	Jordan Dascalo	63	Jack Hunter
41	Trevor Davis Jr.	34	Sam Inos
78	Clay DeBord	89	Terry Jackson II
61	Jay Deines	60	Jerrold Jones
58	David Delgado	53	Jonah Jordan
87	Dre' Sonte Dorton	35	Alek Kacmarcik
80	Zach Eagle	37	Cole Karstetter
91	Samson Ebukam		Andrew Katzenberger
74	Nick Ellison	31	Ashanti Kindle
13	Mitch Fettig	44	John Kreifels

ZLIES

42	Josh Buss	72	Cooper Sprunk
43	Nate Bradley	73	Angel Villanueva
44	Nolan Timmons	74	John Schmaing
45	Jeremiah Kose	75	Robert Luke
46	Austin Chadderdon	76	David Reese
47	Derek Crittenden	77	Cameron Rokich
48	Donald Bedell	78	Clint LaRowe
49	Jesse Sims	79	Max Kelly
50	Aaron Held	80	Josh Horner
51	Tucker Schye	81	Zach Hollenback
52	Nick Mertes	82	Keenan Curran
53	Dante Olson	82	Jerry Louie-McGee
54	Gage Smith	83	Ryan Burke
55	Kyle Davis	84	Donovan Rooks
56	Alex Thomas	85	Reese Carlson
57	Shane Cochran	86	Ben Roberts
59	Cy Sirmon	87	Chris Lider
60	Jackson Thiebes	88	Colin Bingham
64	Colin McGillivray	89	Tim Semenza
65	Cody Meyer	91	Tyrone Holmes
66	Dallas Hart	93	Zach Peevey
67	Joe Paolina	94	Harrison Greenberg
68	McCauley Todd	95	Andrew Harris
69	Jared Clark	96	Patrick LeCorre
70	Ben Weyer	97	Ryan Johnson
71	Devon Dietrich	98	Mike Ralston
		99	Reggie Tilleman

MONTANA Jeremy Calhoun

Fr. RB - 30 carries, 86 yards, 2 touchdowns in four games

The freshman running back has increased his carries each game, running for 42 yards on 12 carries including a touchdown run against Portland State.



J.R. Nelson

RS-Jr. CB - 31 tackles, four pass break-ups

Nelson and Nate Harris will have the daunting task of keeping Cooper Kupp in check, but Nelson is excited for the challenge.

LES

10	Cooper Kupp	52	Jack Sendelbach
40	Ketner Kupp	30	Savion Simms
57	Dylan Ledbetter	94	Matthew Sommer
97	Kaleb Levao	81	Stu Stiles
19	Josh Lewis	56	Jakob Stoll
55	Andre Lino	65	Tristen Taylor
77	Levi Long	99	Jay-Tee Tiuli
50	Codi McGuire	68	Jim Townsend
76	Tyler McNannay	18	D'londo Tucker
20	Sam McPherson	21	Rashad Wadood
70	Matt Meyer	8	Miles Weatheroy
28	Jalen Moore	6	Nzuzi Webster
72	Aaron Neary	22	Simba Webster
24	Asan Neil-Evergin	5	Jordan West
36	J.J. Njoku	14	Jayson Williams
83	Jalani Phelps	90	Keenan Williams
38	Tysen Prunty	33	Malcom Williams Jr.
67	Ben PuaPuaga	2	Jabari Wilson
4	Todd Raynes	9	Zach Wimberly
23	Moe Roberts	82	Jake Withnell
98	Monike Sarte	49	Miquiyah Zamora
93	Marcus Saugen	16	Andrew Zimmerman
7	Nic Sblendorio		
64	Chris Schlichting		

Cooper Kupp

Jr. WR - 1,290 receiving yards, 17 touchdowns, 91 receptions

Kupp is the best receiver, maybe player, in the entire FCS. Head to montanakaimin.com to check out a full feature on Kupp.



Jordan West

Jr. QB - 28 passing touchdowns, 2,639 passing yards, 203 completed passes

West is the maestro of an Eastern Washington team that leads the country in passing yards per game at 373.

EASTERN

Go fourth and prosper:

Stitt's aggressiveness paying off

Andrew Houghton

andrew.houghton@umontana.edu

Bob Stitt was pretty vocal about his offense when he took the head coaching job at the University of Montana.

"This offense is very efficient, but we're going to run a lot of plays," Stitt said at his introductory press conference. "We've been the fastest football team in America the last two years."

Those quotes refer to the speed of Stitt's hurry-up offense, but the coach wasted no time pointing out another facet of his aggressive gameplan.

"You've got four downs, you might as well use them," Stitt told the Billings Gazette shortly after his hiring. "It's a gut feeling and something I believe in."

That's right, the coach who wants to run 90 plays a game also believes in going for it on

fourth down early and often.

So far, through eight games this season, Stitt has been true to his word, as the Grizzlies have gone for it on fourth down 32 times so far this season, more than any FBS team and second among FCS teams to their Big Sky Conference rival Cal Poly.

"It's obviously something that's highly stressed because it's do or die in that situation, so you have to be really highly focused," said wide receiver Ben Roberts, who's been targeted a team-high seven times on fourth down.

The Grizzlies have moved the chains an even 50 percent of the time on fourth down, picking up 16 conversions, including two memorable ones on the game-winning drive against North Dakota State.

Some detractors say that a failed fourth-down conversion hurts more than a successful one helps.

They point to the demoralizing aspect of

a failed conversion, as well as other consequences like forcing your defense to defend a short field.

But Montana coaches say that there are advantages to the aggressiveness as well.

Defensive coordinator Ty Gregorak, who took his squad up against Stitt's offense in fall and spring practices, says that the threat of going for it forces defenses to change play calls even on third down.

"I can tell you that it does put pressure on you, because let's say it's third-and-8, but you know you're hovering around the 50, and even if you hold them to fourth-and-3 or fourth-and-4, you have to get ready to play again," said Gregorak. "There is that added element in the play call. You want to be pretty aggressive (on third down) because you know that you might have to play again."

The Kaimin crunched the numbers on Stitt's aggressiveness, first recording the data

on every fourth down conversion the Grizzlies have attempted this year and then running each and every one of Stitt's decisions through a fourth down calculator.

What we found seems to validate Stitt. On average, according to the computer, each of his decisions to go for it have added 1.3 percent to the Grizzlies chances of winning.

Montana drives that feature a successful fourth down attempt are averaging nearly three points, almost a point more than opponents average on drives that start when Montana turns the ball over to them on fourth down.

That means that the fear of other teams taking advantage of short fields against Montana's defense following an unsuccessful fourth down try haven't materialized.

Here are some other numbers we picked up on when combing through Montana's fourth down data:

78%

Montana's fourth down conversion rate on running plays. Although there is a selection bias here — running plays are more likely to be called in shorter-distance situations that have a greater chance of succeeding anyway — the fact that Stitt has only called nine runs on fourth down compared to 23 passes should be troubling for Montana fans. The Grizzlies are converting at just a 39 percent rate when they pass.

0

Zero: The number of times punter Chris Lider has started to run out onto the field to punt before Stitt calls him back so the offense can go for it. "I'm on the sidelines, and I'll always look at coach Stitt and you can kind of tell if he's going to go for it or not," Lider said. "He usually looks at me and gives me the nod, so I don't start running on the field until I get the nod."

75%

The conversion rate on fourth down when the play goes to Jamaal Jones, the highest rate among any Montana player who has been given the ball more than twice on fourth down. Roberts and Chase Naccarato have been targeted more than Jones but have only converted 28 percent and 40 percent of their opportunities, respectively.

31 yards

31 yards: The longest gain that the Grizzlies have picked up on a fourth down play. Montana fans should remember this play as well. It was the pass down the seam to Reese Carlson on fourth-and-10 that kept the game-winning drive alive against NDSU.

8%

This is the largest positive margin that any of Stitt's fourth down calls have swung the Grizzlies chances of winning (excluding calls that any coach would make — like the two during the final drive against NDSU). Unfortunately, this one, a fourth and one late in the game against Cal Poly, is a decision that Grizzly fans probably won't remember very fondly despite, the math backing it up. Although a conversion would have sealed the win for Montana — hence the large shift in winning percentage — the Grizzlies failed to convert this, leading to Cal Poly's game-winning drive.



Grizzlies reflect on their military roots

Tiffany Folkes

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The national anthem rings through Washington-Grizzly Stadium, the American flag flying above the thousands of people anxiously awaiting another battle. Fireworks flash as the team runs out, the crowd fueling the players with adrenaline. The cannon booms every time the Grizzlies reach the end zone; the sound of victory.

There are moments in every Griz game that reflect the history of our country's battle for freedom and present fight for well-being, but the University dedicates one game each season to those who have given us the opportunity to live safely today.

Not everyone experiences life in the military, but several players on the Griz football team hold memories of living in a military family. Alex Thomas and Tyler Lucas share their experiences growing up with parents who have served and what they've learned from growing up with military roots.

ALEX THOMAS, REDSHIRT FRESHMAN, LB

If you do the task at hand right the first time, then you don't have to do it again. Just one of the valuable lessons Alex Thomas learned from his father. Thomas recalls a middle school football practice in which he just wasn't putting in the effort that his father expected from him.

"He made me run extra in front of the whole team because I wasn't hitting hard enough," Thomas said. "He definitely has always been the kick in the ass that I needed to get going."

Raised on the Malmstrom Air Force Base in Great Falls until second grade, Thomas faced a strict upbringing that delivered the reward of respect and discipline on and off the field.

In Thomas' eyes, it is very important to express gratitude to those risking their lives for the safety and freedom of Americans, especially during a game where thousands of people have the opportunity to think about what being in the military means. Most people don't actively ponder the fact that soldiers fighting overseas are providing them with the opportunity to play and watch football.

"To some people, the national anthem isn't a big deal, but growing up on a base they played it every day at 4 p.m.," Thomas said. "You would stop everything that you're doing and put your hand on your heart to listen to the national anthem."

Alex's father, David Thomas, spent 20 years serving in the Air Force, retiring as a master sergeant. He spent time overseas at the Royal Air Force in England, participated in the Gulf War and lived on several different bases in the



Photo courtesy of Rodney Lucas

Rodney Lucas (center) served 22 years in the Air Force, retiring as a master sergeant. Father of Grizzly wide receiver Tyler Lucas, he's still friends with some of the men he spent 12 years in England serving alongside.

U.S. Now, the legacy of his service is reflected through the hard work of his son and continuous well-being of the country.

As a kid, Thomas loved to brag about the fact that his dad was a master sergeant in the Air Force. Today, he holds a special kind of pride that comes from living with a service member.

"It's always awesome to talk about it, especially for a game like this," Thomas said. "I always try to thank vets when I see them, to thank them for their service and for what they're letting us do."

Although he dreamed of joining the military growing up, it was his father who got him into football. His father pushed him in sports, handing down a healthy dose of competitiveness and desire to win.

Out of all of the things that he learned from his father, there is one phrase that has continued to hold presence in the back of Thomas' mind: "Don't try, just do it."

TYLER LUCAS, REDSHIRT SENIOR, WR

Tyler Lucas remembers the exact day when he moved to the United States. It was April 11, 2009, his brother's birthday and the end of his sophomore year of high school. Lucas had just spent the last 12 years of his life living overseas in England.

His father, Master Sergeant Rodney Lucas,

was nearing retirement from the Air Force, and wanted to move back to his roots in Pennsylvania. After Tyler was born in Panama and briefly lived in Japan, the Lucas family made the big move to England when Tyler was 4 years old.

From the people he met to the places he saw, living on bases in England and Scotland was an amazing opportunity for Lucas. His favorite part about living overseas though, was his experience playing high school sports.

"We would travel to other military bases for sports," Lucas said. "It was an awesome experience. I felt like a professional, taking all of these plane rides just for sports."

Living in England, Lucas found significant success playing soccer, and didn't pick up football until the ninth grade. Even then, the football he played consisted of just nine players on the field. But with his father as his assistant coach pushing him on the field, and a brother who also played the game, football was the path that Lucas ultimately pursued when his family moved to the States.

Growing up with a father in the military is one of the greatest experiences that Lucas said he could have ever had. The opportunity to see the world, meet amazing people and experience different cultures played a great part in this opportunity, but he also gained

the unique values that a parent in the military passes on to their children.

"He was a very strict guy growing up, so I learned the mentality of always working hard, staying motivated and dedicating yourself to achieve anything you set your mind to," Lucas said. "I definitely appreciate all of the values that he's taught me. It's shaped the person that I am today."

Lucas' older brother just passed basic training for the Air Force a few weeks ago and is now attending technical school in California. The military runs through the Lucas family and Tyler greatly appreciates the service that they provide our country.

"Without them today, we wouldn't be here at all," Tyler said. "I think it's great to show how much we care and honor what they do."

Growing up in a military family, Lucas had always envisioned a life in the military in his future. At this point in his life, he is definitely considering joining the military after he graduates college.

Lucas and Thomas are just two of the many members of military families. The University of Montana will honor all of those who have fought for our country with the "Military Appreciation Game" against Eastern Washington on Nov. 14.



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Q&A

Walter Wright

Sojin Josephson

sojin.josephson@montana.edu

Walter Wright is an East Coast boy, but he came west and stayed.

The junior Connecticut native transferred from Snow College in Utah to play guard at Montana. In the Grizzlies exhibition game against Whitworth, Wright's first game in maroon and silver, he scored 31 points to lead his team to an 83-64 victory.

But Wright is used to success on the court. Last season, Wright set an all-time Snow College record, scoring 49 points in the Badgers win against Sheridan College.

He's ready to make a big impact at Montana too, and to help lead his team to a championship.

Wright took some time before a November practice to talk about his first game as a Grizzly, what he hopes to accomplish here and his love of basketball.

Montana Kaimin: What's it like coming from the east to the west?

Walter Wright: Living styles are a lot different. I feel like the pace is a lot faster over there, especially coming from Connecticut. I'm from a mid-sized city. Not too big, not too small. Everybody knows everybody, but it's pretty fast over there. Coming to Missoula, Montana, it feels like it slows down a little bit.

MK: What made you choose Montana after spending two years at Snow College?

WW: Great relationships with the coaching staff. I like Missoula a lot. I felt like this would be a great opportunity for me to win a championship and meet great people, so that was part of my decision.

MK: What's different so far about being at a D-I school compared to a junior college?

WW: The life. The crowd is a lot bigger. The speed of the game is a lot bigger. It's more time consuming because we have to deal with study hall, meetings and things like that. We did those things at junior college, but it's a lot more time consuming here.

MK: When did you start playing basketball and was it always your primary sport?

WW: I actually played football up until my freshman year of high school, where I did play quarterback for a little bit. But I started playing basketball when I was about 5 years old. My mother put the ball in my hand and then after that I just fell in love with it. I also had a love for football, but basketball was my primary sport all through high school and middle school.

MK: What's your favorite part of being a basketball player?

WW: It doesn't feel like a job to me and it doesn't feel like I'm stressed out. When I'm on the court, I just think about nothing else but playing basketball. Football is kind of like a job to me. When I'm out here on the court, I'm just enjoying myself.

MK: What is your favorite movie and why?

WW: Well, I actually have two. One: Paid in Full. Rapper Cam'ron is in there. Mekhi Phifer also. I just feel like it teaches me life lessons about friendship and things like that. Two: Coach Carter.

MK: What is your major and why?

WW: Sociology. I like working with kids and doing things in that field, so I feel like this can help me start up my career with that and that's why I chose sociology. I would like to be a counselor for kids and be like a big brother to them and help them in life. If they need any



Evan Frost / @efroste

Montana's Walter Wright faces up Whitworth's Matt Staudacher during their game on Nov. 3, 2015.

guidance, I can be that person and help them out to get through tough situations.

MK: What was it like to score 31 points in your first game as a Grizzly and to make such an impact?

WW: I enjoyed it. I enjoyed giving the

crowd a show and helping my team win. If I have to do that every night to help my team win, then I will. And I enjoyed scoring 31 points. •

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Small business in the **Big Sky**

by Claire Chandler

IN THE SPRING of 2014, Silvester Kwame was caught in a predicament. He'd moved to the United States from Kenya, hoping to earn an MBA at the University of Montana, and he was enrolled in an accounting class crucial to his education. The problem?

He had no textbook and no opportunity to purchase one.

Inquiries at the back-ordered bookstore showed weeks of waiting, plus an obscene price tag. Amazon, eBay and Craigslist didn't have the book either, and he felt uncomfortable buying something so expensive from unknown people in unknown locations. He was at a loss, and already falling behind on his assignments. In Kenya, books are provided. In America, he was quickly learning, a student was expected to fend for himself.

One day on the Oval, Kwame recognized a classmate who had dropped the class after a few weeks. The two chatted and the classmate offered to sell her \$100 book to him for \$60. He jumped at the deal, and it got him thinking about other students in similar dilemmas.

The idea for mamradi.com was born, and with it, a new entrepreneur.

Mamradi — a Swahili word for deals — is a website that takes out the middleman, allowing students to buy and sell books directly to and from each other on a campus scale. A self-described terrible employee, Kwame likes doing things his way, on his time. In a business atmosphere that puts a premium on working with others and flexibility, Kwame might sound like a 5-year-old, but it is exactly those priorities that nudged him (and hundreds like him) into the field of entrepreneurship.

"I wanted to make an epic campus experience for the student," Kwame said. He has a hint of black stubble under his chin and

speaks his mind even when it could result in trouble.

Most Montana startups are in business activities, just like Kwame's site, and they're popping up in the Treasure State at a faster rate than anywhere in the United States. Montana has topped the Kauffman's Index of entrepreneurial startup activity for two years in a row. Of every 100,000 Montanans, 540 become entrepreneurs each month, according to the Index.

There were a growing number of entrepreneurs in Montana before the 2008 recession, peaking in 2007 before declining. This is mostly because so many construction startups, that began during the housing bubble, failed. The current upward trend of entrepreneurs began in 2011, according to the Montana Labor Market Information Office.

The rise in entrepreneurs across the state and country is mostly due to globalization, technology, social media and crowd funding platforms like Kickstarter, according to business management professor Klaus Uhlenbruck. The three collude, allowing Montana to connect to the rest of the world and actually be a player in the world economy.

Being a young student in this environment is a great opportunity, Uhlenbruck said. Students won't have to leave the state to get the experience needed for higher paying jobs. Montana actually has a talent shortage right now, with companies competing for workers with knowledge and skills in health care, engineering and business, according to the state labor office.

Kwame faced this same shortage of talent. After researching comparable websites and saving money during the summer of 2015, he was ready to start building the actual site, but

didn't know anyone in town with the skills he needed. He turned to a friend in Romania who built parts of the website, with Kwame building the rest. Transactional security was paramount, so he spent extra time and money on it.

The biggest challenge for Kwame now was getting users. He talked with Matt Lapalm at the UM Bookstore about helping them move their book stock, but they said they were not interested until Kwame could hit the golden number of 500 users.

To reach this number, Kwame found he needed help. For this, he turned to the Blackstone Launchpad.

We have liftoff

Blackstone Launchpad sits on the second floor of the UC, squished between the upstairs of the Bookstore and an outdoor staircase. A brightly lit, green-walled room with beanbags and a red couch, the space invites conversation.

Conversations revolve around students and alumni exploring entrepreneurship, which is Launchpad's mission.

Director Paul Gladen is an English transplant with a bald head, piercing blue eyes and a knack for getting right to the point in any conversation.

In the 18 months Blackstone has been on campus, they have seen over 500 students and alumni. People come in with ideas across the spectrum, from concepts to fully-formed businesses, like Kwame's.

Blackstone guides students through the process of starting a business, connects them with resources and helps wannabe entrepreneurs establish mentors. They also help students like Kwame create marketing plans.

To reach his goal of 500 users, Kwame must target students and convince them to sign up for Mamradi. With Blackstone's help, Kwame created posters advertising his business, visited classes and is working on an event to sign up more users.

Although two thirds of Blackstone's clients are business majors, Gladen sees students from across campus. Learning to problem solve, find creative solutions and understand ideas in context are the most valuable tools an entrepreneur can have.

"Entrepreneurs are not defined by being business students. They are defined by their ability to solve a problem and be passionate about it," Gladen said.

Just like his clients, Gladen is focused on the long term. He wants students to explore entrepreneurship, and whether they use their knowledge now or in 20 years, he wants students to understand it is an option to be your own boss.

Breaking your back to break even

Connie Muller, owner of Polliwog Essentials, is certainly not a business student. The UM anthropology alum found her way to entrepreneurship after ten years as a scientist in a crime lab. Muller started her own business after laboriously trying to find skin care products that didn't irritate her sensitive body.

By 2012, she had already run the gamut of commercial to organic products with no results. So she started with her own formulations, working towards products that are healthy, yet elegant.

"I didn't want to just slather on beeswax," Muller said.

In 2013, Muller started selling her products under her own name. Then in June of 2014 she



Brian Walton / @brian.walton
Silvester Kwame gets help designing posters from media arts student Tanner Everard in the Blackstone LaunchPad office on Nov. 5. Kwame started mamradi.com, a website that allows students to buy and sell textbooks directly from other students.

created the LLC Polliwog Essentials. A polliwog symbolizes change and growth, two things she was experiencing at the time.

She got a website going and started selling her products at Meadow Sweet Herbs and the Green Light in downtown Missoula. A friend in Minnesota also sells Polliwog products at house parties.

Muller heard about the Launchpad coming to town and went in to see them. Glad-en told her to really look at her cost analysis. She crunched numbers for three months and emerged on track to break even at her company's two-year anniversary, something she is very proud of.

Muller makes all her products in Meadow Sweet Herb's back laboratory. She is very hands on, knowing where all her materials come from and where they go. Only her product labels are made by someone else, a local Missoula company.

Some days Muller wishes she could hand her keys off to someone else for a little while and take a break from working seven days a week. She deals with fluctuating raw material costs, attracting new customers and day-to-

day problems of running one's own business.

"It's easy to be passionate about something for weeks or months," Muller said.

Money out of thin air

Forestry student Stephen Jenkins was impassioned to help the world by an unlikely source.

Jenkins connected with Ayn Rand's "Atlas Shrugged," a novel glorifying capitalism and the self, when he saw similarities between the fictional plot and America today. After reading the story, he decided to become an entrepreneur.

Part of Jenkins' summer firefighting job is burning off the leftover logging brush. The giant scars and poor air quality left by these burnings piqued his interest in recycling environmental waste. Both logging companies and the government are losing money by not using this waste, Jenkins said. Jenkins saw an easy solution, and he set out to create a system that captures the carbon dioxide and methanol byproducts from burning wood scraps.

Carbon dioxide and methanol for industry

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

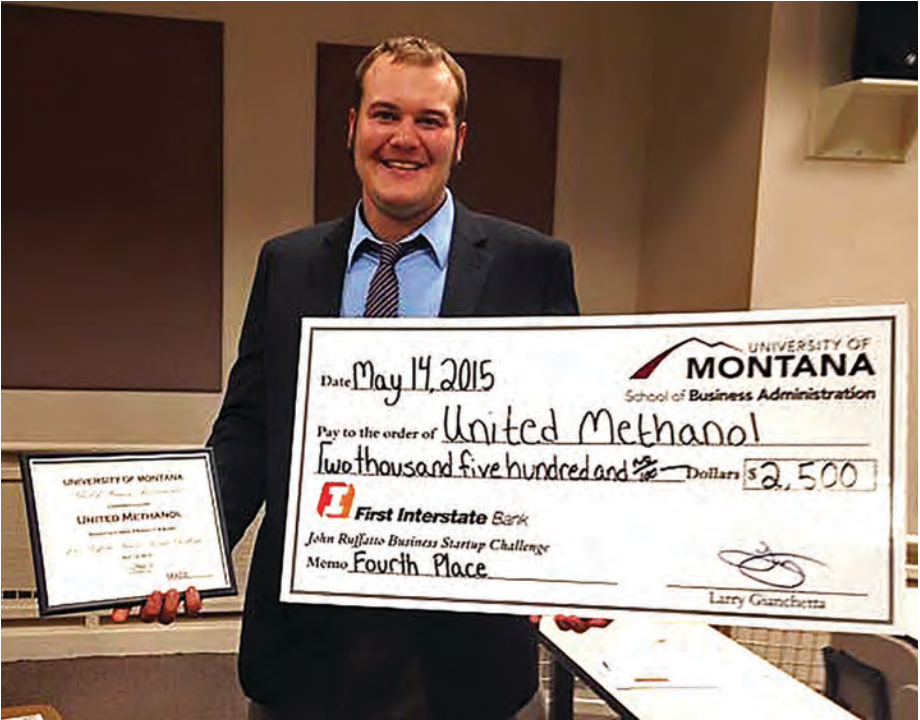


Photo courtesy of Stephen Jenkins
(Left) Stephen Jenkins poses with his check at the John Ruffatto Business Plan Competition. Jenkins came up with the idea of recycling leftover biomass into profitable methanol and carbon dioxide while working for the U.S. Forest Service.



Brian Walton / @brian.walton

Connie Muller, founder and owner of Polliwog Essentials, helps a customer pick from among her health and beauty products at Ultimate Indoor Craft show in the UC Ballroom on Nov. 7.

are normally produced in the Corn Belt and Gulf coast. They have to be shipped to customers, doubling the cost of the gases. That's where Jenkins plans to make his money. His production isn't cheaper, but since the gases are already in Montana, buyers don't have to factor shipping into the cost.

In the fall of 2013, the 6-foot-6-inch Sasquatch-looking Jenkins researched and designed his system. Calling it United Methanol, he entered the Barrett Foundation Business Concept Challenge and took home second place with his teammate Jenna Trejo, along with a hefty \$25,000 check.

Jenkins was flown to Washington D.C. to meet with the assistant chief of the U.S. Forest Service and present his project. A minute or two into Jenkin's meeting with the assistant

chief, she stopped his presentation to bring in the head chief.

"If felt really good to know the chief liked our proposal and wanted to see our company be a success," Jenkins said.

The next year, Jenkins entered two more business plan competitions on campus and placed in both. During his second competition, he figured out the biochar created by burning the wood scraps can be sold as fertilizer. So he added it as a product of the system.

It seemed Jenkins was on the right track, or at least his idea was. At this point he didn't have an actual product, just an idea and design.

"I had just won a bunch of money for a good idea and had good people around me and no idea how to run a business," Jenkins



Brian Walton / @brian.walton

Director Paul Gladen of the Blackstone LaunchPad at the University of Montana sits for an interview in the organization's office in the UC on Oct. 30. They currently serve some 350,000 students on 15 college campuses across the country.

said.

Like many before him, he went to see the folks at the Blackstone Launchpad. They hooked him up with a mentor and Jenkins started working on a system he could show investors. He has had a couple of partners, and forestry professor Beth Dodson has been a huge support throughout the whole process.

Jenkins operates his system in the Flathead Valley. He and his team plan to have the system complete by spring, when they will share it with investors and hopefully get funding to build more. The carbon dioxide filter system is giving his team trouble right now, but they hope to have it figured out soon.

There are other biomass utilization facilities out there, but Jenkins' is unique because it's mobile and can be taken directly to the site.

Once biomass is moved 50 miles, it loses value.

An avid hunter and hiker, being in an environmentally friendly industry is important to Jenkins. The alumni graduated last spring with a business in hand.

"I know that this project, while it may be a relatively small impact by itself, will be a part of the green revolution," Jenkins said.

Jenkins is well on his journey with a lot of unknowns ahead. Twenty percent of American business startups fail within the first year, and forty percent fail within the first three, according to Montana labor statistics.

For Kwame and other entrepreneurs, however, the risk of failure is worth the freedom of being one's own boss.

"Even if this venture fails, I will find another one," Kwame said. ■



ARTS+CULTURE

THIS WEEK

NOVEMBER 12

POLYPHONIC SPREE

Want to feel like you're dancing in a field of daisies while playing the tambourine? Go see Polyphonic Spree at the Top Hat. The Dallas-based rock pop band is known for its fresh take on psychedelic rock. A favorite of David Bowie, the group often looks like a cult in their robes, but their music is anything but exclusive.

@ Top Hat
8 p.m.

\$20-25 at the door / 18+

NOVEMBER 12

LITTLE BIG TOWN

The Adams Center hosts Little Big Town on their Painkiller tour. Comprised of four alternating lead vocalists, the group has a true pop country feel. Throw on boots and a belt buckle and dance to songs about the expected (think heartbreak, drinking and tornadoes). What more could you want?

@ The Adams Center
7:30 p.m.

\$25-\$35 / all ages

NOVEMBER 13

BIG JOHN BATES

If you feel like blowing off some weekday steam, head to Stage 112, which hosts thrash metal pioneer turned Americana psychobilly Big John Bates. The Canadian guitarist has been compared to a darker Arcade Fire. Openers will be Missoula bands, The Skurfs and Pale People.

@ Stage 112
Doors: 9 p.m. Show: 10 p.m.
\$8-10 / 18+

NOVEMBER 16

THE RICHARD THOMPSON TRIO

Go see a guitar and song writing legend at the beautiful new Wilma. The critically acclaimed Richard Thompson has been called one of the most influential and important guitarists of his time. Anyone who likes the guitar (or any popular guitarists of the last 50 years) should be in attendance. Thompson has toured and written songs for the likes of Bob Dylan, Emmylou Harris and Wilco.

@ The Wilma
Doors: 7 p.m. / Show: 8 p.m.
\$28-32 / all ages

NOVEMBER 18

SNARKY PUPPY

More than just a band with an adorable name. Fill your ears with some of the most talented instrumentalists in the country. The instrumental band with over 40 members takes the Wilma stage. Snarky Puppy is led by Grammy winner Michael Leauge and members have played with some of the biggest names in music.

@ The Wilma
Doors: 7 p.m. / Show: 8 p.m.
\$26-30 / all ages

Tess Haas

teresa@haas@umontana.edu

Bowen through the motions: Parkour

Bowen West

bowen.west@umontana.edu

This story begins back in my senior year of high school.

I was a cocky little shit, of course, because every high schooler is a cocky little shit. I went through life expecting things to just fall into place for me. I had no plans for the future, no hopes, dreams or goals, and I never fought for what I wanted.

Then there was Michael Graef. He seemed to have tunnel vision back then; the only thing he looked toward was his future. It drove me crazy. He was all about parkour and the idea of movement. He wore black hoodies saying "Movement Runs Me," a logo he made to try and spread his brand.

I was too busy reading comic books to worry about the future.

It's been four years since I've seen Graef (until last Tuesday but we'll get there), but with the majesty that is modern technology I could see his accomplishments with the business that he and fellow owner Kent Johns started when we were in high school. They founded Unparalleled Movement, a parkour gym, in high school. They didn't go to college, because who needs a degree when you have your own business?

Fast forward to the present. I needed a new idea for my article. I sent too many emails. I even emailed Magic: the Gathering Club to no avail. Then it hit me: I would try that sport those guys in high school were doing. I would try parkour.

I would go, let them teach me and ultimately fail, as these articles have quickly become an examination of my own shortcomings. And I'd write about it and everyone would tell me what a funny article it was. It would be about how silly parkour is.

You know, for comedy.

I sent a message to Graef asking if he could teach me about the sport of "free running." I received a message back within minutes saying he would love for me to come to their gym.

The Unparalleled Movement gym is in a warehouse on Commerce Street. It was dark by the time I arrived. I had never been to this side of town, and I was terrified I was going to get jumped by some vagrants that wandered into town on a train. That didn't happen, but there is a part of me that thinks it would have been less painful than my parkour inspired existential crisis.

I saw Graef standing in the gym, which

looked like a mini cityscape, waiting for me. He was still wearing all black, I swear I've never seen that man wear any color brighter than charcoal. His hair was stylish and slick, a nice contrast to my crazy curly locks. He didn't seem as tall as I remembered. We spoke about what we were up to — he was a business man and I was a student.

There was this tension between us I couldn't put my finger on.

He got the course ready for me. I would be vaulting over a beam a couple of feet tall.

Graef taught me the speed vault. I would run, place my right arm on the beam and launch my body over. I sprinted forward, put my arm down and threw myself over. I didn't bring my feet up high enough and hit my right knee against the obstacle. It hurt like hell. He made sure I was okay, and I told him I was fine. If I showed weakness that meant I was a failure, that I couldn't make it over the hurdles that he could seamlessly conquer.

We tried the "kong vault" next. I had to run to the beam and launch with my legs in a dive, place my hands down and push off the obstacle and then do a badass spin and land it.

This next part is going to be hard to believe, but I fucking nailed it. I felt like a king. Graef congratulated me. He made me feel incredibly accomplished, and it was right then, as a man my age praised me for the simplest of tasks, that I realized what a loser I had become.

When he was giving me high fives and telling me "good job" for getting over a beam, I didn't feel like we were peers. There was a barrier of maturity, he was the teacher and I was his student. I was looking at someone who, unlike me, wasn't afraid of embracing the future.

We headed onto the next drill. Jumping from one beam to another, with a goal of landing as gently as a cat. He set this up and I stood around thinking about the path I had chosen for my life.

Why am I in college? I can't write for shit, why would I choose a career in writing? Why didn't I know what I wanted to do when I was in high school? All of these thoughts were racing through my head as I

was getting ready for the next obstacle.

I jumped from one beam to the next. I didn't stick the landing.

"Fuck!" I said rather loudly. I remembered there were kids around. "Sorry about that I'll try and stop swearing."

"Thanks man, I appreciate it," Graef responded.

If I can't even watch my mouth around kids, how the hell am I suppose to tackle the real-world challenges that are awaiting me after graduation? I couldn't shake this encroaching sense of self doubt looming over me. I was surrounded by the success of someone I graduated with, and I had nothing to show for myself. He is a successful business man. I'm graduating with a BA in the spring.

But I kept attempting this jump until I finally got it. Graef seemed proud of me. My pride was telling me I was a natural at this. Reality was telling me that he was just a good teacher.

We continued to practice parkour for an hour. I was ready to get out of here and go cry in my pillow wallowing in self-pity over my aimless life. I shook Graef's hand and thanked him for teaching me. Then we went our separate ways. I ran to my car because the thought of vagrants was still fresh in my mind.

Then I sat in my car for much longer than I should have. ■



Sydney MacDonald / @sydneyismaco



Hookup culture is nothing new

Erin Goudreau

erin.goudreau@umontana.edu

It's only fitting that a university-sponsored conversation about sex would include a session on hookup culture. What's noteworthy is University of Montana's decision to focus on the positive aspects of hookup culture, especially the connection between casual sex and women's empowerment.

"There has always been a lot of shame and guilt for women surrounding casual sex," Adrienne Donald, University Center associate director of student involvement and communications, said. "The reality is, when done safely and respectfully, casual sex can actually be very empowering."

The hookup culture session is the final event of UM's Sex Talks, a series organized and promoted by the UC Student Involvement Network. The series has included informational sessions such as "The Evolution of Sex," "Guide to Genitals" and "Fetishes and Fantasies".

"The intention of Sex Talks is to provide education as well as a safe space to talk about sex," Donald said.

Donald defines a "safe space" as an apolitical community conversation, which welcomes all questions, provides a space for learning and is respectful. Though they would ask anyone who doesn't adhere to those guidelines to leave,

Donald says there have been no problems so far.

Although Sex Talks was created to provide a space to talk about safe, responsible and consensual sex, the hookup culture talk will include a discussion on consent and sexual assault. Donald believes a thorough education on hookup culture and casual sex is directly connected to a conversation about sexual assault.

"We will absolutely discuss the fact that frank conversations between the two parties about consent are imperative," Donald said. "People need to understand that it isn't about reading signals, or interpreting body language, but is quite simply asking the question, 'Do you want to have sex?'"

Kim Brown Campbell, UM's campus assault prevention coordinator, will attend the Sex Talks on hookup culture. Campbell says that universities have a role to play in creating an open dialogue about hookup culture, pointing out that people enjoying casual sex is nothing new.

"People like to think hookup culture is really different today, but I don't think that's the case," Campbell said. "It was once called swinging; we've just given it a new name. The narrative surrounding the 'new hookup culture' is a bit sensationalized." •

**UM's Sex Talk:
Monday, November 16
6:00-8:00p.m. UC. 330.**

Documentary review:

BUCKLEY, VIDAL AND THE HATE DEBATE

★★★★★

Bowen West

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It's 1968, the Republican and Democratic parties are about to have their conventions during a time of an enormous political upheaval. Civil rights are blowing up, the Vietnam War is spiraling out of control and the American Broadcasting Company is a failing network with nothing to lose. So, ABC decided to try something new by having two opposing commentators battle it out in a televised debate.

"Best of Enemies," directed by Robert Gordon and Morgan Neville, is a new documentary that uses archival footage and talking head analysis to look at the birth of televised debates.

The two stars of this documentary are William F. Buckley Jr., a right-wing conservative commentator, and Gore Vidal, a left-wing writer and public intellectual. Buckley and Vidal are fascinating characters; clever wordsmiths, aristocrats and egoists. Their hatred for each other is the real highlight of the film. Their animosity wasn't staged — these two literally despised everything about each other.

The film looks at the power of debate through a humorous lens. The documentary really shows the wit of Vidal and Buckley, even outside of their battles. On the one hand the film is about an intense rivalry between the two, and on the other it's about the rise of talking heads in modern media.

If you are interested in history, media or hilarious exchanges between rivals this documentary is for you. •



WHAT THE FOOD

The rise of corn

Taylor Wyllie | taylor.wyllie@umontana.edu

Astaxanthin, maltol, ethanol, golden syrup, treacle, dextrose and maltodextrin. All otherwise known as corn.

I once avoided corn for five days, and while it was much easier than a local food challenge, (see last week's column) I still found myself hungry and disappointed more often than not.

Corn is in everything.

Okay, maybe that statement is hyperbolic, but just barely. Corn is in the bagels from Bagels on Broadway, it's in cream cheese, orange juice, some frozen fruits, caramel, most store-bought cookies, and thousands of other foods you'd assume were corn free (an exhaustive list can be found at livecornfree.com). Even meats and dairy products can be connected to corn — feed in industrialized settings can be made up of 65 percent corn.

Americans eat an average of 11 pounds of corn flour per year, Michael Pollan said in his book "The Omnivore's Dilemma".

In the Midwest (where I'm from) you can drive only an hour or two and pass dozens upon dozens of gold and green corn fields. Entire communities depend on corn agriculture, although increasingly corn is produced in huge quantities by large companies.

We became a corn country, in part, due to the heavy government subsidies on corn crops.

And, in case you weren't sure, such high frequency of corn in our foods isn't a good thing.

Focusing our attention on just one crop champions monocultures, i.e. cultivating just one crop in a single area. Monocultures can lead to nutrient-depleted soils, which are useless to farms (think of the Dust Bowl). To overcome weak soils, farmers must purchase fertilizers, which not only are expensive, but can runoff into our rivers and lakes and infiltrate the groundwater, thus polluting our water system.

The corn boom, which included the rise of high fructose corn syrup, also allowed the fast food and soda industries to flourish. Corn is cheap, and by using it as a filler ingredient in foods, the foods themselves become cheap as well, thus the premise on which fast food is based can continue.

There's not one solution to this problem. Avoiding corn is impossible, but eating a more natural diet can decrease your run-ins with processed corn. A homemade stir-fry for example is likely to contain no corn, or contain only corn in its original state.

You can also speak out against corn subsidies, and find real truths out there behind the messages the corn industry throw at us. Dip your toes by reading the book by Michael Pollan "The Omnivore's Dilemma" or watching the film "King Corn".

The more we talk and learn about the issue, the more power we have in solving it.



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WEEKLY TRIVIA

- The dot over the letter 'i' is called a tittle.
- In the Philippine jungle, the yo-yo was first used as a weapon.

- The storage capacity of human brain exceeds 4 Terabytes.
- In the United States, a pound of potato chips costs two hundred times more than a pound of potatoes.
- A 'jiffy' is a unit of time for 1/100th of a second

Los Angeles Times Daily Crossword Puzzle

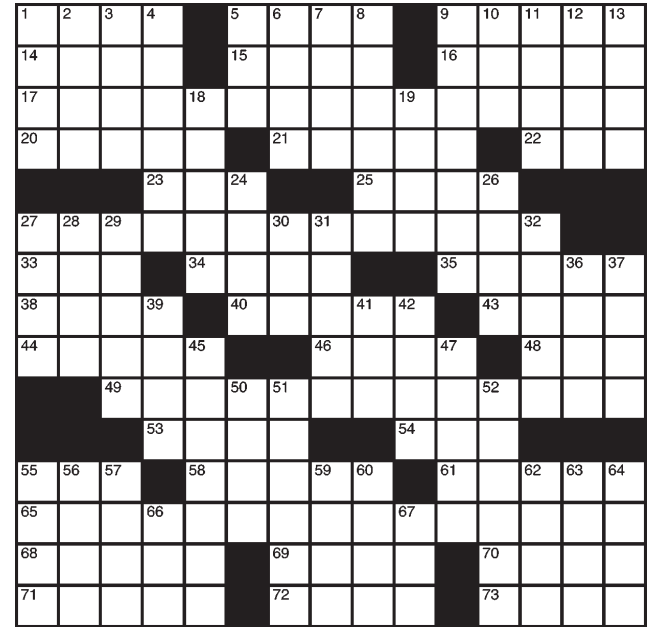
Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Lewis

ACROSS

- 1 Luxurious
- 5 Decorative bedroom item
- 9 As such
- 14 Morales of "Jericho"
- 15 Improbable
- 16 Without stopping
- 17 What a party crasher may get
- 20 French room
- 21 Signifies
- 22 Nuggets' org.
- 23 Air traveler's concern, briefly
- 25 Mil. group that "teaches you to lead"
- 27 19th-/20th-century South African conflicts
- 33 "Stupid me!"
- 34 Unlikely prom king
- 35 Chocolate-covered caramel treats
- 38 Starting from
- 40 Event with arguments
- 43 Habit
- 44 NFL's winningest coach
- 46 In the way indicated
- 48 Support
- 49 Horror movie characters
- 53 Jog
- 54 Petty with hits
- 55 Shindigs
- 58 Occupied
- 61 Shows of crowd approval
- 65 Film score component, and a hint to words hidden in 17-, 27- and 49-Across
- 68 "Sweeney ___ the Nightingales": Eliot poem
- 69 Newbie
- 70 Italian meat sauce
- 71 Do not disturb
- 72 Promote
- 73 Inbox clogger

DOWN

- 1 Lats relatives
- 2 Workplace welfare agcy.
- 3 Caravel mover



By Gerry Wildenberg

- 4 Jewish campus organization
- 5 Mess of a place
- 6 Hurt
- 7 Out of the wind
- 8 Celtics coach before Rick Pitino
- 9 Lady Gaga, for one
- 10 Tolkien forest creature
- 11 Trigger guide
- 12 Uppity type
- 13 "Giant" author Ferber
- 18 Give away
- 19 Sufficient, to Shakespeare
- 24 Provide the bank layout to, say
- 26 Brag
- 27 Court figs.
- 28 Snack
- 29 Horror movie character
- 30 Hockey legend
- 31 Polishes in publishing
- 32 Memorial Kettering: NYC hospital
- 36 Sleep ___
- 37 EPA issuances
- 39 Uninspired
- 41 Tuna type

Last week's puzzle solved

J	D	S	N	B	A	E	R	S	O	F	A	R
E	A	T	A	R	I	S	E	P	I	E	C	E
T	Y	R	M	O	R	T	A	L	E	N	E	M
S	O	I	L	O	W	E	A	N	K	L	E	S
P	I	C	K	A	C	U	T	E				
F	A	T	A	L	E	R	R	O	R	D	A	N
A	Z	E	R	A	I	W	I	N	T	O		
U	T	A	R	U	T	A	L	E	E	I	N	A
N	E	S	K	N	O	T	P	U	M	P	S	
A	C	E	R	S	M	A	R	T	A	L	E	C
A	H	A	B	I	S	L	E	T				
M	O	S	D	E	F	S	G	T	E	O	N	S
I	N	S	I	D	E	S	T	O	R	Y	D	E
R	E	T	A	G	H	O	R	A	E	I	R	K
A	I	S	L	E	H	A	S	P	S	E	D	S

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11/5/15

- 42 Unbridled desire
- 45 Shorten
- 47 Assault
- 50 First-rate
- 51 Double exposures?
- 52 Affairs of the heart
- 55 Dashboard feature
- 56 "I'll pay"
- 57 2013 Wimbledon champ Andy Murray, e.g.
- 59 Eye problem
- 60 Title outranking viscount
- 62 Memo letters
- 63 Capital west of Moscow
- 64 Bathtub buildup
- 66 Bach's "Mass ___ Minor"
- 67 Texter's "What a riot!"

SUDOKU

THE SAMURAI OF PUZZLES By The Mephram Group

Level:



Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit, 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk

Last week's puzzle solved

6	3	7	1	2	5	9	4	8
2	8	1	7	4	9	5	6	3
5	4	9	6	3	8	2	1	7
3	2	8	5	1	4	6	7	9
7	6	4	8	9	2	3	5	1
1	9	5	3	6	7	4	8	2
4	5	3	2	7	1	8	9	6
9	1	2	4	8	6	7	3	5
8	7	6	9	5	3	1	2	4

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